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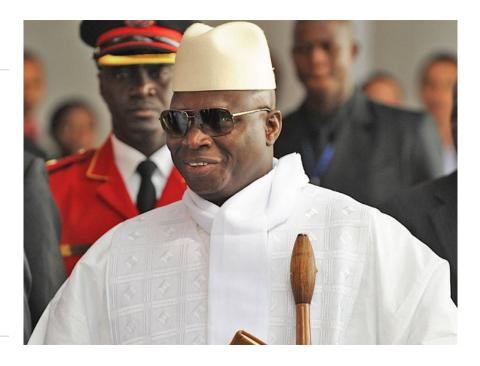


Yahya Jammeh Is Not Backing Down On Contesting The Results Of Gambia's December 1 Elections

Post by Obianuju Okafor December 21, 2016

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Gambia's December 1 election. The President made the statements in reference to the continued calls from both West African leaders and Western powers.

The ever increasing call for the President to respect the result of Gambia's December 1 election has even been taken up by a Muslim group that has funded projects in the Gambia.

There was a little hope that the group would be able to sway the President, who often casts himself as a devout Muslim, from his stand for fresh polls but it seems, even the Muslim group has failed to convince the President.

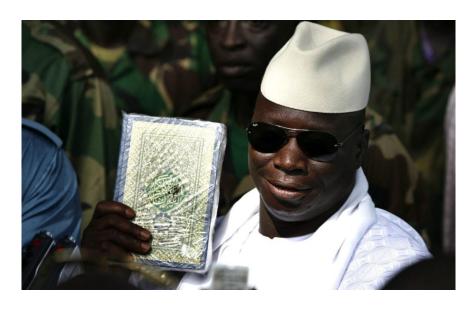
See Also: Muslim Countries Ask Yahya Jammeh To Accept Election Results

President Yahya Jammeh, after Gambia's December 1 election, had conceded defeat on state television, only reversing his concession a week later and demanding fresh polls. On Tuesday (20th December), the President also took to state television to further harp on his reversal.

Speaking just a day after the President-elect had declared that he was ready to take office on January 18, President Yahya Jammeh said on state television;

"I am not a coward. My right cannot be intimidated and violated. This is my position. Nobody can deprive me of that victory except the Almighty Allah."

The President also criticized ECOWAS for "meddling" in Gambia's affairs, insisting that the issue will be settled internally and peacefully but that he is not budging from his position of challenging the results.



Last week, ECOWAS insisted that Jammeh must step down when his term runs out and promised;

"to take all necessary action to enforce the results" of the poll.

See Also: Gambian Security Forces 'Seize Election Commission HQ'

Meanwhile, a spokesman for the opposition coalition that backed President-elect Adama Barrow has promised that President Jammeh would not face prosecution after leaving office.

According to him;

"President-elect Barrow says he is going to treat outgoing President Yahya Jammeh like a former head of state and would consult him for advice."

It is believed that President Yahya Jammeh was set on his path to contesting the results of Gabia's December 1 election by the opposition's commitment to prosecuting him after he leaves office.



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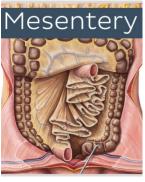
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